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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

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Monika; and GERDES, Thorsten

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For

: METHOD AND PLANT FOR THE THERMAL TREATMENT OF

GRANULAR SOLIDS

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to fee calculations and examination on the merits, entry of the following Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. More specifically, all of the claims, Claims 1-8 have been amended, and new Claims 9-10 have been added.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.